



PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY BY
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TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 5, 1878.

In the Senate to-day the Silver bill was still under consideration. Mr. Eaton, of Conn., speaking in favor of making a silver dollar intrinsically worth as much as a gold dollar.

In the House of Representatives a large number of memorials, resolutions, &c., were presented, among the memorials being one for aiding the starving Chinese by returning to them the \$1,000,000 now held by the U. S. Treasury as a Chinese indemnity fund. A bill in relation to trespasses on the timber lands in Mississippi was debated at length. Gen'l. Hooker of Miss., advocated the bill, showing the great wrong that is being perpetrated by delay in legal proceedings. The debate was continued by Messrs. Knox, Fry, Hale, Foster and others.

The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill reported in the United States House of Representatives yesterday reduces the salaries of the Ministers to England, France, Germany and Russia from \$17,500 to \$15,000; of those to Spain, Austria, Italy, Brazil, Mexico, Japan and China from \$12,000 to \$10,000; of those to Chili and Peru from \$10,000 to \$8,000; drops the missions to Belgium and the Netherlands, and provides for a mission to the United States of Colombia. This is better than it has been, but the country would get along just as well if the whole expense were saved by abolishing the diplomatic missions. Telegraphic cables are more reliable than any Minister could possibly be, and are infinitely less expensive.

The idea that a State can be sued like an individual is revived by the New York Nation, and advocated in a convincing manner by that able journal. We never could satisfactorily reconcile the exemption of States, or to go still further, of nations, from the obligations of debt that bind the citizen, with the institutions of a republican form of civilized government, for the people, upon whose support such governments rest, through their legislators, could certainly be relied upon to provide for the execution of the orders of the courts, when those orders would not be prejudicial to the welfare of the nation.

In an interview between the President and Mr. Murphy, the temperance lecturer, yesterday, the former is reported to have given expression to a thought, the brilliant and profound wisdom of which must have astonished all who heard it. It was to the following effect: "If men could only be brought to stop drinking the rum-sellers would have to shut up their shops." Mr. Hayes should see that the White House be supplied with competent reporters, for such utterances as he is credited with will render him ridiculous.

The large vote in the United States House of Representatives, yesterday, in favor of an income tax, shows that the craze prevalent in that House has not extended beyond the silver question. Such a tax is more equitable and easily borne than any that can be imposed, and with proper regulations can be collected with less cost and more efficiently than any other tax. It falls upon those who can pay it with little or no trouble, and there is not a man exempted from it who would not willingly render himself liable to all its provisions.

The prize for the champion comforter of the age lies between Col. Robert Ingersoll and Mr. George Francis Train, for while the former relieves us of our fears of hell fire, the latter holds out to us the hope of eternal youth, and says: "In fifteen years my hair will be as black as a raven; in forty years I will have a new set of teeth, and in one hundred years I shall begin making a new race of men."

Baltimore thinks this no time for endorsing bonds, and, consequently, refuses to lend its assistance to the Western Maryland and the Valley Railroad schemes. She finds an additional reason for her action in the fact that circumstances have secured her the trade of the roads mentioned, whether she assists in extending them or not.

In order to relieve itself of its Indian troubles the government is going to adopt the barbarous policy of setting the different Indian tribes at each other's throats—the Crow against the Sioux, and in its efforts to despoil the original owners of the soil of their last acre, sacrifice friends as well as foes.

If the discoverers of planetary bodies have as much success in the future as they have had in the near past, a new system of nomenclature for the planets will become a necessity. Two new ones have just been announced.

Virginia News.

Emma Davonport, 25 years old, was taken to Richmond yesterday, charged with robbing the mails at Goodland Court House. Special Mail Agent Henderson makes affidavit that she was employed in the postoffice at Goodland Court House and that while so engaged stole two packages of valuable jewelry and a silk dress. The father of the accused is the postmaster at the Court House.

The first annual exhibition of the Virginia Poultry Association will be held in Richmond on February 20th, 21st and 22nd. A large number of entries have already been made, and a large number of letters have been received making inquiries in regard to the exhibition.

W. H. Shepherd, esq., of Nelson county, died on Thursday last. He was a most worthy gentleman, and for many years has been chairman of the Examining Committee of the Virginia Midland Railroad. Lynchburg Virginian.

Jacob M. Jacobs, aged 100 years and 2 months, died in Oswego last evening. He was in the United States naval service of the war of 1812.

Foreign News.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Public opinion at St. Petersburg and even more at Moscow regards the projected conference with disfavor. Some papers speak of the conference as a mere device of the European Powers to deprive Russia of all she gained after so heavy an expenditure of blood and treasure without themselves spending a farthing or losing a man.

The Austrian Cabinet yesterday issued formal invitation to the signatory Powers of the Treaty of Paris to send representatives to a conference to be held at Vienna.

The Czar yesterday, after an inspection, addressed the troops as follows:—"I congratulate you upon the armistice, the satisfactory conditions of which are due to our brave troops, who proved that for them nothing is impossible of accomplishment. We are still, however, far from the end, and must continue to hold our selves prepared until we obtain a durable peace worthy of Russia."

The Roumanian Cabinet deliberated four hours on Sunday, under the presidency of Prince Charles, upon General Ignatieff's formal proposition for the cession of Bessarabia to Russia. Nothing was resolved, but there are indications that Roumania will categorically refuse.

After the signing of the peace preliminaries steps were immediately taken at Adrianople to commence the negotiation of a definitive treaty of peace. General Ignatieff and Seret Pasha will be entrusted with these negotiations.

The Russian troops remain at Redosto, Tzar lova and Bonragas.

A correspondent at Vienna telegraphs as follows:—"The situation is still regarded here as serious. It has transpired that Russia is concentrating troops in the interior of Roumania, and one hundred and twenty thousand men will be massed towards the west and north, evidently for defence against Austria."

A Berlin correspondent says:—"The situation is still considered critical. The Czar's address to the troops at St. Petersburg on Sunday and the calling out of forty new battalions have further checked public confidence in the early reestablishment of peace."

A Berlin dispatch says it is announced that the proposed conference will probably meet in Brussels.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says:—"It has been assumed until lately that England would interpose the principal obstacles to a satisfactory arrangement, but it is now believed that Austria will offer the most serious opposition. Russia is inclined to be conciliatory relative to the question of the Straits, which principally affects England. But with regard to the Slavonic tribes, it is declared she must consider her own honor and aims as well as the supposed interests of Austria. Popular faith in the triple alliance is much shaken. It is believed that Austria has completely changed her attitude, and serious doubts are entertained even concerning Germany."

The Montenegrois seem inclined to resist the armistice, which was concluded just as they were meditating an attack on Scutari. It is rumored that Russia will not occupy all the Danubian fortresses when the Turks evacuate them. If this is true it is a concession to Austria, who could hardly view with indifference Russia's complete domination of the lower Danube.

A Belgrade correspondent says it is reported that the armistice is for an indefinite time until the conclusion of peace.

A Pera special says it is expected that Baker Pasha will start for Thessaly immediately.

The surrender of Erzeroum is officially announced. The Russians will enter the town to day. The Turkish garrison and the poorer Mohammedans who wish to go will retire to Turkish territory. The surrender is probably in fulfillment of one of the conditions of the armistice.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The Daily Telegraph's Vienna correspondent says that Count Andriassy's formal invitation to the signatory powers of the Treaty of Paris to send representatives to a conference at that city, fix no date for its assembling. The same correspondent says that he has reason to believe that an important decision is pending by Austria which is greatly dependent on the result of the debate now going on in the British Parliament and on which the fate of England and Austria depends.

The London Daily Telegraph's Paris correspondent says that he has received on high authority some confirmation of the rumor that Russia is negotiating for the surrender of the whole Turkish fleet.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—The Times' St. Petersburg dispatch says:—"The cessation of hostilities has produced more anxiety than rejoicing."

TRIESTE, Feb. 5.—The Austrian iron clads Kaiser Max of 3,404 tons and carrying twelve 64 ton guns, and Hansburg of 4,558 tons with fourteen 10 ton guns are being fitted for service.

RATONA, Feb. 5.—The Prince of Montenegro has accepted the armistice and ordered the cessation of hostilities.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—Intelligence has just been received from Constantinople that the office of Grand Vizier has been abolished and a new Ministry formed consisting of Ahmed Vefik Effendi, President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of the Interior; Seret Pasha, Minister of Affairs; Redif Pasha, Minister of War; Sadyk Pasha, Minister of Marine; Kiani Pasha, Minister of Finance; Namyk Pasha, Grand Master of the Artillery, and Safvet Pasha, President of the Council of State.

The constitution of a new Ministry under European forms and designation seems to indicate a further step in the present reform.

ENGLAND.

The debate on the supplementary vote was resumed yesterday in the House of Commons. Mr. Gladstone said the armistice removed all apprehension of Turkey's being encouraged by the hope of English aid. It also removed the reason for persevering in the vote, now that there was no apprehension of Russian occupation of Constantinople. The Government by the menacing attitude they proposed to assume, were taking a step in the direction of barbarism and violence. Persevering with the vote could only demonstrate that the nation was divided. While urging that the vote of credit be withdrawn in favor of the address to the Crown, which he had proposed, he said he conceded the necessity of supporting the Government by some declaration before they entered the conference. He would support the Government in using their influence to induce Russia to relinquish her claim for the retrocession of Bessarabia; also, in everything relating to the free navigation of the Danube and in obtaining liberal terms for Turkey as far as consistent with the interest of Turkey's subjects.

Mr. Gathorne Hardy, Secretary of War, pointed out that the Government was ignorant of the conditions of the armistice, and that Russian armies had reached a point which, if the negotiations failed, might be dangerous for Europe. It was important to be prepared, because wars of late were sudden and unforeseen. The Russian bases of peace were exceedingly vague, and although the Government had been told the condition relative to the Straits was withdrawn, it still remained. The Government's object was to secure a permanent and solid peace. Grudging £6,000,000 now might involve a future expenditure of £600,000,000. The Government had been misrepresented throughout the country, and was not now going to accept an empty vote of confidence. If the vote of credit should be denied it was time for them to resign. They did not desire to lead a crippled existence. The powers were armed to the teeth, and a single spark might light a fire threatening the best interests of the country. They asked the House to give them the vote

that they might perform their part in European concert for the benefit of subject races and mankind.

After some further discussion, the debate was adjourned.

Colonel Home Drummond Moray, Jr. (Conservative), has been returned to the House of Commons for Perthshire, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Sir William Stirling Maxwell.

Cardinal Howard is to be created Archbishop of Edinburgh and Primate of Scotland.

John O'Leary, former editor of the Irish People, has been permitted to temporarily revisit Ireland for private affairs on parole and on the condition that he will abstain from politics.

GREECE.

The Greek troops who entered Thessaly yesterday, under General Soutzi, encountered no resistance from the Turks, who withdrew to Domoco, which places the Greeks captured at the point of the bayonet. One hundred and fifty Greeks were killed.

Five Turkish men-of-war passed the Dardanelles on Sunday on their way to the Greek coast. There are only five hundred troops in Athens and a small English garrison at the Piræus. Hundreds of volunteers are leaving daily for the frontier.

A dispatch from Athens dated Sunday says:—"On receipt of the news of the signing of the Russo-Russian armistice an extra sitting of the Chamber was held. The Ministry and House agreed to continue the present policy. Gen. Sapountzakis, with 7,000 troops, was ordered to enter Ephesus on Sunday morning."

The port of Ephesus is defended by torpedoes. The Bey of Ephesus has submitted to Greece. Thirteen hundred Turks were taken prisoners at Domoco.

New torpedo boats from London are manned and ready.

AFRICA.

Advices from Cape Town say:—"The Caffre war is being vigorously prosecuted. Numerous volunteers and burghers are going to the front. Colonel Glyn has defeated the Galkas at Quintana. The insurrection is not spreading, and it is hoped will soon be suppressed. The Zulus remain quiet."

Severe fighting occurred in the Transkei on the 13th ult. The natives were defeated with great loss. An official announcement which has been issued says that the Government has reason to believe the rebellion will be speedily crushed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

His majesty, the Shah of Persia, will leave Tehran on the 10th of March, via Tiflis, for a tour through Europe, in which he will visit all the European capitals. The Shah will travel strictly incognito.

A Rome paper says that Italy and France have accepted Austria's invitation to a conference.

Many have accepted Austria's invitation to a conference.

Rev. Mr. Rainsford.

The Richmond correspondent of the Petersburg Index says:—"I heard the Rev. Mr. Rainsford, the English Evangelist, for the first time last night. To get a good seat I started from home in time to reach St. Paul's by 7.15 o'clock—three quarters of an hour before the commencement of the services. Going down Grace street and when two or three squares from the church, I saw streams of people returning home. They told me that it was useless to go any further; that the church was full and hundreds were unable to get to the vestibule even."

Nevertheless, I pushed on, and in the course of a quarter of an hour, managed to work my way into the middle aisle. It was crowded from the first row of pews back to the door. Many were standing; others had chairs, and finally a number of settlers were brought in and given to the ladies."

I managed to secure a seat—well, the very one, I say, upon which the delicate boots of left David rested (if the current story is true) on that memorable Sabbath when the telegram from Lee announcing the evacuation of Petersburg was delivered to him. Anyway, I was well satisfied. Nay, more, was as delighted as if I had drawn a big prize in the Havana lottery."

Seriously had I seated myself when a lady screamed out as if in great agony. Her tones almost made the blood stand still in my veins. Instantly the people were upon their feet; it needed but for one to start to retreat and all would have followed; a panic was imminent, and if it had occurred, with the ladies blackaded as they were, awful would have been the consequences."

But Mr. Rainsford arose and in tones of stern command said down, going down the young gentleman in the gallery will please throw open the windows." The young evangelist was obeyed. There was no hesitation. The congregation resumed their seats without further ado. Such a voice would almost have saved a army in the beginning. His tones, it is true, are magnetic, and he is a splendid looking man, but he is neither a very fluent nor a very polished speaker. But he commands the careful attention of his hearers and interests and moves them deeply. It is hard to tell exactly how or why. As to the great power which there is a conflicting opinion. He is very earnest; evidently believes what he preaches. He has no cant. With him there is an almost entire absence of the pulpit vernacular. On the other hand he occasionally uses what some might call slang. For instance, he said that it is not true that the Bible is "played out." He is very simple in language and does not seem to strain after effects though some of his imagery is very beautiful. Then he sticks to the Bible closely. His quotations are apt and always at hand."

A GHASTLY DISCOVERY.—A letter from Perry, N. Y., in the Syracuse Standard, says:—"There is a great excitement at Alexander. Last week two young men who were out hunting had occasion to go into a piece of woods belonging to Mr. Gardner, about a mile north of Alexander. They descended into a ravine, through which runs a small stream of water, for the purpose of getting a drink. While kneeling down drinking from the stream, one of them discovered a hole in the bank, which on investigation was found to communicate with a cave about twenty feet square. The cave was enclosed with a wall of cut stone, and in the cave was a corpse of a woman about twenty years of age. She had a chain fastened to the right leg, which was attached to an iron ring in the wall and fastened with a heavy brass padlock, taken from a New York Central Railroad car. In the cave were found packages of clothing, books, cigars and eleven tin cans. A shirt held a number of bottles and tumbler and a broken kerosene lamp. The matter is being investigated by the coroner, and the result will soon be announced. The inhabitants near by are excited, and talk of lynching the person who chained a woman in such a place, and doubtless caused her death by starvation."

Mr. Hamilton Dodge, one of the leading citizens of Georgetown, died suddenly on Sunday night. He was as well as usual during the day, and made no complaint until about 11 o'clock at night, when he complained of his head, and shortly fell from an attack of apoplexy, and expired soon after.

Legislative.

In the State Senate, yesterday, a motion was adopted discharging the Finance Committee from the further consideration of a Senate joint resolution providing for the appointment of a joint committee, whose duty it shall be to ascertain and report any proposition that may be made by the creditors of Virginia for the settlement of her debt, offered by himself some time ago.

Mr. Hart signified his intention of taking up the resolution and modifying it hereafter.

A resolution was adopted fixing Wednesday, February 6, at 2:30 o'clock, unless the vote shall be taken sooner, for voting on Mr. Brooke's and Mr. Keiser's bills in reference to the State debt.

The Senate bills providing for the readjustment of the State debt came up as unfinished business, the question being on Mr. Paul's motion to recommit both bills to the Finance Committee, with instructions to report a general tax bill.

The motion to recommit was lost.

Mr. Tyler's amendment providing for an average rate of interest of four per cent, instead of four and a half was rejected—yeas 10; nays 21.

Mr. Hart, of Halifax, moved to amend by providing that the interest on all the new bonds proposed to be issued shall be six per cent, instead of three per cent, for the first ten years, for the second, and five per cent, for the third ten years, and six per cent, thereafter.

In the House of Delegates, Mr. Bohannon, under a suspension of the rules, offered the following:—

Whereas the Constitution of this State prescribing that the Governor shall communicate to the General Assembly at every session the condition of the Commonwealth and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall deem expedient and whereas the financial condition of the Commonwealth is such as to require that the General Assembly should seek the aid, counsel, and advice of the Executive Department of the Government in their efforts to secure a satisfactory and honorable solution of the financial difficulties that threaten the public credit and retard the material advancement of the State; therefore be it

Resolved, That his Excellency, the Governor, be requested to communicate to this House, in reference to the condition of the Commonwealth, and to recommend to its consideration such means as he may deem expedient for the settlement or arrangement of the public debt of the State.

The resolution was strongly opposed by Messrs. Harvis, Fauschler, and Talaferro, of Gloucester, and advocated by Mr. Bohannon, and rejected by a large majority.

Mr. Hunter introduced and had referred a bill to amend and to reenact the act entitled an act for the protection of game.

Mr. Murchick offered the following:—

Resolved, That so much of the special order or resolution heretofore passed by this House fixing Thursday next at 2 o'clock, p. m., for taking the vote upon the passage of the Barbour tax bill be and the same is hereby rescinded.

The resolution was agreed to—yeas, 55; nays, 48.

The Barbour tax bill was then taken up and further discussed until adjournment and at a night session.

The Silver Dollar.

The New York Board of Trade and Transportation held a meeting yesterday and adopted a resolution that a memorial be forwarded to the Senate and House of Congress, reciting the evils of the plethora of silver currency which have been experienced by merchants of the city.

The memorial states that wholesale merchants of New York experience great inconvenience from the accumulation of silver coin received from their customers, who are principally retail tradesmen. As the Board will not receive the silver on deposit except to pay it back in kind, merchants are obliged to sell it at a discount, and add the amount of the discount to the price of their goods; thus, the loss in the end falls on the consumer, and the only person benefited is the money broker. The memorial concludes: "Silver coin of the present weight and standard is now at a discount of 2 to 3 per cent as compared with paper, and practical by the heaviest part of this loss falls upon the poor man."

A silver dollar is coined containing a still less weight of silver than those at present in circulation, the loss will be proportionately greater. There are certain natural laws which cannot be abrogated, and while it is possible for the nation through its representatives to say to the nation's creditors: "We will pay you off in dollars different from those you expected, and worth only what we please to make them," it is not possible to prevent the nation from suffering indirectly from the adoption of such a course. The rule that honesty is the best policy, applies equally to communities and nations as to individuals, and we do not believe it to be good policy for a great nation to violate the spirit of an agreement even if the letter of it permits."

"We are now so near the practical resumption of specie payments upon the same basis as the rest of the world, that it seems a pity that this much to be desired result, which will bring real and permanent prosperity to the whole country, should be interrupted and postponed. We sincerely trust that measures which are intrinsically inconsistent and burdensome to commerce may be defeated, that the railroads will overthink clamor, and that enlightened statesmanship will firmly stand between national honor and those who either foolishly or willfully seek to overthrow it."

SUPREMACY COURT DECISION.—In the U. S. Supreme Court, yesterday, Griffith D. Neal, plaintiff in error, vs. Langhorne, Seruges et al., executors, in error to the Supreme Court of Appeals of the State of Virginia. In this case it is said that in the section of the law of 1867, which sets forth the classes of debts which are exempted from the operation of a discharge in bankruptcy, debts created by fraud, are associated directly with debts created by embezzlement; and that such association justifies, if it does not absolutely require, the conclusion that the fraud referred to in that section means positive fraud, or fraud in fact, involving, as does embezzlement, moral turpitude, or evil design, and not implied fraud, or fraud in law, which may exist without the imputation of bad faith, or immorality. Such a construction of the statute is most consonant to equity, and is consistent with what is supposed to have been the object and intention of Congress in enacting a law by which the honest citizen may be relieved from the burden of hopeless insolvency. In this view of the case Neal's discharge in bankruptcy barred the claim against him in this case. Decree reversed with costs, and case remanded for further proceeding in conformity with the opinion of the court.

Among the bills introduced in the House of Representatives yesterday and referred, was one to amend the Constitution of the United States as to the period for the election of President and Vice President by a direct vote of the people, and to provide for a second election from among the two highest candidates, if neither secures a majority of the popular vote.

The Attorney General of New York has begun suit against the Long Island Railroad Company for the removal of Mr. Thomas R. Sharp, the receiver, and the winding up of the corporation as insolvent under some other receiver.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. Hunt presented the petition of B. E. Gault for compensation for property taken during the war, which was referred to the Committee on War Claims.

Visit to Murphy's Recruiting Ground.

Lincoln Hall, Washington, Wednesday last, at mid day, presented the appearance of a church where a popular preacher was to hold forth, but with the additional flavor of a little week day freedom about it. On the arrival of the appointed hour for commencing the exercises few seats were vacant. Soon an individual came on the platform, Bible in hand, who was greeted with applause, which proclaimed him the hero of the hour. A man of medium height, powerfully built, with body very long in proportion to the rest of his person, grayish hair, closely cut, large black moustache covering his mouth, eyebrows to match, pale face, aquiline nose, and brilliant eyes, clad in black clothes unexceptionable both in quality and cut, coat tail and shirt collar of fashionable length and height, white neck tie and shirt bosom, which shone like the frozen snow; a man apparently of medium and intellectual ability, but strong physique and great will power. Such is Francis Murphy.

"Let us commence this blessed service," is the introductory form with which he begins every meeting. Then follows a melody of Scripture reading, prayers, exhortations and sacred songs by the choir or by Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, whose exquisite singing adds very much to the attractiveness of the meetings. Everything is short, rarely over five minutes. The noon day meetings have more of the prayer element about them, but generally the congregation, or audience, can have what they prefer. If Mr. and Mrs. Wilson sing usually well, Mr. Murphy trots forward with, "I will ask brother and sister Wilson to sing," &c. Let a speaker utter a sentence or two, if the people applaud, louder applause follows, and the orator has the floor again for five minutes. The meetings have uniformly about them except in the manner of closing. Murphy never speaks long at a time, and apparently without any preparation, often three or four times in one meeting. He is not an educated man, but he possesses a natural vein of eloquence and humor which few Irishmen are without. Two things he can do well, read human nature and shake hands. Let a reporter come in late. "Here, get a chair for this gentleman," is instantly uttered. Let one leave before the meeting closes and he can go. His remarks are abound with pathetic appeals rather than with facts and arguments. At one time he expresses his willingness to work with men who drink moderately, at another with Sons of Temperance and Good Templars. He does not believe a man can reform without conversion, but it is to be noted that he does not require a profession of religion from his adherents. Through all he utters there runs the idea that he has hit upon the plan for succeeding in the temperance reform. He forgets that other people before his day were of opinion that it is unwise to abuse liquor sellers, and acted upon it, and that Gough gathered signatures by thousands. The audience is watched with eagle eye as the meeting progresses, and everything done to arouse a furor. At the close, "Let us sing something," shouts Mr. Murphy. "Hold the Ford" seems to be his favorite, but two times at once would make no difference, for the louder they sing the louder he shouts as he runs about the platform, "Come on men! Sign the pledge! Kingly men! Give up the cup! Come on men! I'll right arm swinging over his head at each exclamation. All are fish that come to the net; church men, temperance men, rowdies, black legs, all count. The following is the experience of a person in signing: A pen is thrust into the hand, a little book jerked open before one, a big blot, a hasty scrawl, one's coat grasped by another individual who hunts for the button hole with an energy which forebodes ill to that useful portion of one's dress, a bit of blue ribbon looped in, a shove on the shoulder to get out of the way of some one else, a vigorous hand shake from Murphy over the edge of the platform, and the thing is done.

Whether the clergy give much aid and countenance is doubtful. Person Newman, through whom Murphy visited Washington, sits in grim silence, declining to utter a word even when called upon by the audience.

When the people are slow in coming forward, as was the case on Wednesday night, off goes Murphy from the platform at a bound up amongst the audience, shaking hands with everybody, using both hands at once, and had he the hands of Hercules he would use them all, as he urges men to sign. The man who signs is instantly escorted, led down a line to the table where the signing is being done, and he is asked to sign. He has but time to recollect his name, and the signing process is put through with lightning speed. The entire affair is a combination of a revival meeting, without the solemnity, and the appearance not unrecognizably presented by that vent hole of free and enlightened America, the House of Representatives.

Many will laugh at these meetings, some will ridicule, and a few will say Murphy is a humbug, but unjustly, for there is about him a transparency of purpose, and an evident sincerity which impresses the beholder most favorably, while his humility and genial bearing are very attractive. We may say what we will, but as men by the dozen drifted forward to don the blue, upon whose faces poverty, intemperance, vice, and crime had written their names in unmistakable characters, the writer was forced to conclude that Murphy was running a big "barshee" plough down into the lowest strata of society, and turning it up to receive the light of the blessed sun. Whether it will stay up is another matter. It is to be hoped it will.

As to the after meetings conducted by ladies in the Y. M. C. A. chapel and witness men of the same sort with tears in their eyes beseeching the prayers of Christians was enough to melt the hardest heart.

FAIRFAX C. H., Feb. 4, 1878.

Louisiana Returning Board.

Ex Governor Wells arrived in New Orleans yesterday morning. A carriage was in waiting at the Clayborne street intersection, to avoid the crowd which had gathered at the Canal street depot. Mr. Wells was taken to the parish prison. He is suffering from a slight attack of pneumonia. Dr. Smith, his physician was sent for. Mr. Wells declines to answer any questions as to his reasons for leaving town or surrendering. The current report is that he surrendered to save the sureties on his bond, but the fact is, his counsel sought to get a favorable jury out of the new panel which was drawn on Saturday for the present month. Wells is improvident. His bonds are fixed at \$20,000, and the Sheriff is authorized to accept them if good and solid bonds are offered. Up to ten o'clock last night they had not been given, and Wells was still in prison.

The Anderson trial was resumed yesterday. The testimony elicited was contradictory of statements made by R. Pelletier.

The evidence will close about noon to-day and argument will commence.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, a statement of Col. Polk, doopkeeper, relative to the charges preferred against him, was read. He denies, under the obligations of his oath of office, every and all the charges intended to reflect upon his honesty in the office of doopkeeper, and that not one of said charges has any foundation in fact. He asks that his official conduct may be fully inquired into and when the facts are known he will have no fear for his good name and fame. He hopes that meanwhile any judgment upon his conduct may be held in abeyance till all the facts fully and fairly appear from investigation.

If you are coughing or not but feel the presence of a cold in the system, use Dr. Ball's Cough Syrup and feel immediate relief. Price, 25 cents a bottle.

Letter from Richmond.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]
RICHMOND, February 4, 1878.

It is the aim of your correspondent to always get the news and gossip surrounding the Legislature before any other newspaper man has laid impious hands upon it. He has so far given in brief the views and actions of the various members upon that all-absorbing proposition the debt question. To-day he stumbled upon a member who had a bill which he was waiting a chance to offer. As it bears upon that all-absorbing question how to raise revenue and pay the debt, I succeeded in getting it from that member and herewith print it. It is entitled

A BILL to pay the public debt and deposit some millions of surplus in the Treasury.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That in order to pay the debt of this State the Governor of Virginia shall forthwith proceed to buy at their real value and sell back to themselves at their own estimated value the following:

1. One grey fox, very aged, noted for doing nothing, to be sold on time at 20 per cent of estimated value, to wit: \$4 per acre.

2. One guinea pig, bound in brass, to keep from bursting. This little animal has developed great imitative powers, and follows its master blindly.

3. One grandson of a great man.

4. One son of a great man.

5. One sweet singer in Israel. Peizegram, damned by their sires. Sings like a siren, the season he has brought \$1000.

6. One chairman of a caucus, or caucus of a chairman, warranted to be everything to everybody.

7. One ante nuptial bachelor, silver-mounted, valuable as a prop to declining age.

8. A Legislative (b) owl. This is a very wild bird, and was referred back by the game committee, with recommendation that salt should be put on his head.

9. One political quack; can ride two horses at once, each going different ways—a feat never done before.

10. One political bugler who can always blow his own trumpet.

11. One meek little lamb, who is fond of gabbling on the ground.

12. A fly old rat, who, having a short tail, can always get in his whole the quickest.

13. A law maker who don't know nothing about nobody, and who always speaks what he knows.

14. An old watch dog with his teeth drawn, whose bark is worse than his bite.

15. A large lot of Legislative brass.